

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims replaces all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A rigid insulation product for use in wood frame construction, comprising a single unitary insulating member formed of a single rigid cellular insulating material having substantially uniform rigidity, dimensioned to be mounted lengthwise on a joist header and including a plurality of slots extending width-wise into the single rigid insulating material across one side of the member, each slot being dimensioned to receive an end of a floor joist, the member including a wall, at the base of each slot, having a thickness of at least about 0.375 inch and less than about 1.0 inch, and the member having a thickness, in regions between the slots, of from about 1.0 to about 3.0 inches.

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 wherein the member includes a wall, at the base of each slot, of sufficient thickness to provide a thermal break between a floor joist end and a joist header when the product is in use.

4. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 wherein the width of the insulating member is substantially equal to the width of a joist header on which the insulating member will be mounted.

5. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 wherein the slots extend across the entire width of the insulating member.

6. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 further comprising a joist header, bonded to the insulating member on a second side opposite the side having the slots.

7. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 wherein the insulating member comprises an insulating material selected from the group consisting of cellular polystyrene, polyurethane and isocyanurate, other cellular plastics, and cellulose.

8. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 1 wherein at least some of the slots are dimensioned to receive an end of a wood I-beam.

9. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 2 wherein the slots are spaced at intervals of about 16 inches.

10. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 2 wherein the slots are spaced at intervals of about 24 inches.

11. (Cancelled)

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Currently Amended) A rigid insulation product for use in wood frame construction, comprising:

a single unitary thermal insulating member comprising a rigid cellular insulating material having substantially uniform rigidity, including a plurality of slots extending width-wise across the member on a first side of the member, each slot being exposed to receive an end of a floor joist; and

a wood member, configured so that the wood member will function as a joist header in a wood frame construction, bonded to the insulating member on a second side of the member opposite the first side.

14. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the slots are disposed at spaced intervals, the spacing of the slots corresponding to predetermined spacing of floor joists in a wood frame construction.

15. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the insulating member includes a wall, at the base of each slot, of sufficient thickness to provide a thermal break between a floor joist end and a joist header when the product is in use.

16. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the width of the insulating member is substantially equal to the width of the wood member.

17. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the slots extend across the entire width of the insulating member.

18. (Previously presented) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the insulating member comprises an insulating material selected from the group consisting of cellular polystyrene, polyurethane and isocyanurate, other cellular plastics, and cellulose.

19. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein at least some of the slots are dimensioned to receive an end of a wood I-beam.

20. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 14 wherein the slots are spaced at intervals of about 16 inches.

21. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 14 wherein the slots are spaced at intervals of about 24 inches.

22. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 15 wherein the wall has a thickness of at least 0.375 inch.

23. (Original) The rigid insulation product of claim 13 wherein the insulating member has a thickness, in regions between the slots, of from about 1.0 to 3.5 inches.

24. (Withdrawn – Currently Amended) A method of constructing a floor of a structure, comprising:

mounting an insulating member on a joist header, the insulating member comprising a single unitary insulating member formed of a rigid cellular insulating material having substantially uniform rigidity, the insulating member ~~and~~ including a plurality of slots extending width-wise across the insulating member on a first side of the member, each slot being dimensioned to receive an end of a floor joist, by bonding a second side of the insulating member, opposite to the first side of the member, to the joist header;
inserting ends of a plurality of floor joists in the slots; and
securing the floor joists to the joist header.

25. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the inserting and securing steps are performed at a construction site, and the mounting step is performed at a site remote from the construction site.

26. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the insulating member is formed in place on the joist header.

27. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 26 wherein the insulating member is formed on the joist header using a process selected from extrusion and molding.

28. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 25 wherein the insulating member is adhesively bonded to the joist header.

29. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the inserting and securing steps are performed at a construction site, and the mounting step is also performed at the construction site.

30. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein the slots are of sufficient depth to hold the ends of the floor joists in place during the securing step, allowing the insulating member to be used as a template.

31. (Withdrawn) The method of claim 24 wherein at least some of the slots are dimensioned to receive an end of a joist having an I or C shaped cross-section.

32. (Cancelled)

33. (Cancelled)